

REMARKS

After entry of the above amendments, claims 1, 3, 5-7 and 9-12 are pending in this application. Applicants have canceled claims 2, 4 and 8. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 7. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Tsuji U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2001/0016856 and claims 3-6 and 9-12 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsuji in view of Lerner U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2004/0172595. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections with respect to claims 1 and 7, as amended.

Applicants have amended claim 1 by adding the limitations of claims 2 and 4. Thus, amended claim 1 recites a system for processing a handwritten document that includes a printing part that prints the document based on the format acquired by the format acquisition part and now specifies that the printing part prints identifier information, by which the handwritten information acquiring part identifies the format of the document, with the document. Applicants similarly amended claim 7.

The Examiner asserts that the limitations of claims 2 and 4, now part of claims 1 and 7, are disclosed in Tsuji's Fig. 6 and paragraph [0068]. Applicants respectfully disagree. Tsuji's Fig. 6 and paragraph [0068] do not disclose that the printing part prints identifier information, by which the handwritten information acquiring part identifies the format of the document, with the document. They merely explain that P represents a form into which characters are written by the input pen 10, and P' represents an electronic form reflecting the entries into the form P and displayed on the display 3 or printed out by the printer 4. That is not the claimed invention.


To anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim and Tsuji fails to do this. Accordingly, the invention claimed is patentable over the prior art, and claims 1 and 7 should be allowed. This logic also disposes of the rejections of claims 3, 5, 6 and 9-12, which depend directly or indirectly from claims 1 and 7.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 116692005400.

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Respectfully submitted,

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